

Here is speech for Seague meeting Sat. Set me
know if you want any changes. call me at
Herald office Tues. 9. m at 10 - Butts

Mr. Chairman:

During all the years I have been the owner of a team in the Negro National League I have faithfully and sincerely worked to advance colored baseball in public esteem and confidence. So earnestly have I adhered to this determination that there have been times my resolution has brought upon me financial loss and the scorn of some of the members of this organization. I regret that we have had some unpleasant relationships but I am glad that none of us have been weak enough to remain silent when matters arose vital to the life of the league because of the respect we may hold for some members feelings.

With this same desire to work for the advancement of our league I rise now on a matter which may not meet with the approval of all the members of this organization. I am not motivated by any personal feeling against any member of the league but only by the desire to do the thing which I sincerely believe will prove most beneficial to Negro baseball in general and the Negro National League in particular.

We have before us the matter of selecting the man who will serve as chairman of this organization for the next year. It is no reflection upon the ability of the present chairman that I am sponsoring another person for this office. My action in this instance is dictated solely by policy and is purely impersonal. I have always believed that the chairman of our league should be a person who is not an owner and I propose to submit the name of such a person before I complete my few remarks.

Our league is facing the most trying season we have yet experienced. It is vital that we have the complete confidence and support of the public during this emergency if we are to survive. We must not permit any situation to exist which will in any way lessen confidence in the sincerity and integrity of our organization. I believe the first step in this direction is to place at the head of our league a man who has no financial or personal interest in any club and who will administer the duties of this office without fear or favor. I believe that this man should be a person who by virtue of his training, experience and reputation recommends him to us for this position. I have searched long and carefully for such a man and proud to place the name of Magistrate Joseph Rainey of Philadelphia in nomination for the chairmanship of the Negro National League.

Magistrate Rainey is familiar with Negro baseball, having been a newspaperman for 15 years. He is a well known figure in the sports world, having served as Boxing Commissioner of Pennsylvania. He is qualified to execute the duties of his office by virtue of his experience as a Magistrate of a great City. He has the enthusiasm for the job and possesses the capacity to serve. I am convinced that we could make no wiser choice than to elect him to the position of Magistrate Joseph Rainey, Chairman of our league for 1932.